

sexual maturity. He also describes an individual which, though internally it exhibited fully developed male sexual organs, as far as its exterior was concerned bore quite the character of a female, even possessing, indeed, rudiments of brood-lamellæ.

I incline towards the view that Isopods were originally altogether hermaphrodite. Such conditions, however, persisted only in parasitic forms (Cymothoidæ), for which hermaphroditism must be universally advantageous. In the case of free-living forms this state of affairs disappeared. In them we find that only scattered and scanty hermaphrodite remnants or rudiments are preserved.

LXI.—*A new Genus of Aglossal Batrachians.*

By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

AMONG the rich herpetological collections made by Stuhlmann in East Africa the frog described by Tornier as *Xenopus Boettgeri* (Thierw. Ost-Afr., Rept. Amph. p. 163, fig., 1896) is of exceptional interest in adding a second genus to the Dactylethridæ. As Tornier has not realized the systematic importance of the characters which differentiate the new species from *Xenopus levis* and its allies, it is thought desirable to emphasize it by raising *Xenopus Boettgeri* to generic rank under the name of *Hymenochirus Boettgeri*. The principal characters that distinguish *Hymenochirus* from *Xenopus* are, so far as can be judged from Tornier's description and figure, the half-webbed fingers, the incompletely webbed toes, the third of which considerably exceeds the fourth in length, and, above all, the absence of lines of sensory muciferous canals on the body. No doubt a careful examination of the type specimen, unfortunately still unique, would reveal further differences, and the Röntgen rays might be usefully applied to obtain some information on the osteological characters.

LXII.—*Descriptions of Two new Frogs obtained in Madagascar by Dr. Forsyth Major.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

*Mantidactylus Majori.*

Closely allied to *M. curtus*, Blgr., but snout much longer, acutely pointed, and very strongly projecting beyond the mouth. Vomerine teeth in two small, oblique, oval groups close together behind the level of the choanæ. Head longer

than broad, flat above, sides nearly vertical; snout as long as the diameter of the orbit, with sharp canthus and feebly grooved lores; nostril midway between the eye and the tip of the snout; interorbital space nearly as broad as the upper eyelid; tympanum very distinct, three fourths the diameter of the eye. First finger considerably shorter than second; toes webbed to the disks, with small subarticular tubercles; inner metatarsal tubercle small, oval, scarcely prominent, measuring about one fourth the length of the inner toe; disks of fingers and toes small but well developed. The tibio-tarsal articulation reaches the eye or between the eye and the nostril. Skin finely shagreened above, with scattered very small warts; smooth beneath; femoral glands present, not punctured (♀). Dark grey-brown above, with whitish dots and indistinct darker blotches; a fine light vertebral line; limbs with indistinct dark bars; hinder side of thighs dark brown, mottled with white; flanks and lower parts white; throat mottled with greyish brown.

From snout to vent 47 millim.

Two female specimens from Ivohimanita.

*Rhacophorus Peracca.*

Vomerine teeth in two slightly oblique oval groups just behind the level of the choanæ. Head as long as broad; snout rounded, not projecting, as long as the diameter of the orbit; canthus rostralis obtuse; loreal region concave; nostril midway between the eye and the end of the snout; interorbital space as broad as the upper eyelid; tympanum distinct, half the diameter of the eye. Fingers with rudimentary web, first much shorter than second; disks large, as large as the tympanum. Toes half-webbed, with smaller disks and small subarticular tubercles; two small metatarsal tubercles, inner oval, outer round; no tarsal fold. Tibio-tarsal articulation reaching the nostril. Head and back with small smooth warts; a fold above the tympanum; limbs and throat smooth; belly and lower surface of thighs granular. Pale brown above, with dark brown, light-edged insuliform spots; these form a cross on the head, the horizontal branches on the upper eyelids, and regular bars on the limbs. Lower parts white, with a few brown dots on the breast and under the thighs.

From snout to vent 33 millim.

A single specimen from Ivohimanita.

Named after my friend Count M. Peracca, who has added much to our knowledge of the Batrachian fauna of Madagascar.